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Title: Regarding evaluating all the schemes meant for tribals and make a time-bound programme so that all the indicators can be improved.

DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT (NANDURBAR): Madam, first of all, I would like to extend my warm wishes to all the tribals across the country and across the world.

Tribals have not just been an integral part of this country but have added to the rich culture and heritage of India. Tribals in the country have been at the forefront strengthening democracy, promoting gender empowerment and practising the best human traditions. However, after 69 years of Independence of the country, there have been many issues which have yet been neglected with regard to tribals.

The Government has formulated many schemes for the welfare of tribals but the overall socio-economic indicators with regard to the tribals give us a very depressing picture.

Madam, the Human Development Index in all the tribal areas across the country is very low as compared to the national average. The literacy rate of the country today is 74 per cent but if we see of the tribals it is 59 per cent. It is very low in the States which have more tribal population like Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Odisha, where we see a gap of literacy between the general population and the tribal from 18 per cent to 26 per cent.

If we see, 48 per cent of the mothers, who belong to the tribal community, are undernourished. Every second tribal child is having stunted growth. About 29 per cent of the tribal children, who have stunted growth, are put in severely stunted category.

In 2012, according to a Report of the Planning Commission, 45.3 per cent of the tribals, who are living in rural areas, belong to below the poverty line. If we see the general population, it is 21.7 per cent that belongs to below the poverty line. So, it is almost double of what we see in the economic terms. In urban areas, 24 per cent tribal people belong to below the poverty line whereas 13.7 per cent general population belong to below the poverty line.

Now, I am coming to my Parliamentary Constituency Nandurbar. We are having the lowest Human Development Index in the State. The literacy rate of Nandurbar is also the lowest. We rank fifth in infant mortality in the State.

Therefore, Madam, through you, I would like to request the Government to evaluate all the schemes meant for tribals and make a time-bound programme so that all the indicators can be improved.

Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Shri Rabindera Kumar Jena, Shri Shrirang Appa Barne, Shri Ramsinh Rathwa and Shri Manshukhbhai Dhanjibhai Vasava are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Dr. Heena Vijaykumar Gavit.

12.22 hours

SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS